

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:
  - receiving an incoming call from a party;
  - receiving calling party information associated with the incoming call;
  - receiving information associated with at least one physical attribute of the party;
  - altering at least a portion of an image associated with the calling party information based on the received information; and
  - displaying the altered image.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving information associated with at least one physical attribute comprises receiving information associated with facial expressions of the party.

3. The method of claim 1, receiving information associated with at least one physical attribute comprises receiving information associated with the lips of the party.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein altering at least a portion of an image comprises altering the lips of the image.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving calling party information comprises receiving at least one of a phone number and name associated with the incoming call.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving information associated with at least one physical attribute comprises receiving a numeric value associated with one of a plurality of facial expressions.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the incoming call comprises receiving voice signals.

1           8.     The method of claim 7, wherein displaying the altered image comprises  
2 displaying an image of moving lips of the party that are substantially synchronized with  
3 the voice signals.

1           9.     The method of claim 1, wherein receiving an incoming call comprises  
2 receiving a call over a wireless link.

1        ~~10.~~    An apparatus, comprising:  
2                    an interface adapted to receive voice information and animation  
3 information over a call from a party, wherein the animation information is representative  
4 of a facial expression of the party;  
5                    at least one storage device to store:  
6                    an electronic representation of an image of the party; and  
7                    a controller adapted to:  
8                    animate at least a portion of the electronic representation of the  
9 image based on the animation information; and  
10                   display the animated image.

1           11.    The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the controller is adapted to receive  
2 calling party information associated with the call.

1           12.    The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller is adapted to access the  
2 image based on the calling party information.

1           13.    The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the controller is adapted to animate a  
2 pair of lips that are substantially synchronized with the voice information.

1           14.    The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the animation information comprises  
2 receiving a numeric value associated with one of a plurality of facial expressions.

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1 15. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the controller is adapted to:  
2 track physical attributes of a user of the apparatus; and  
3 map the physical attributes of the user to a selected value.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller is adapted to transmit  
2 the selected value to a remote telecommunications device.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to receive the  
2 voice information over a wireless link.

1 18. An article comprising at least one machine-readable storage medium  
2 containing instructions that when executed cause a processor to:  
3 receive a voice signal from a participant over a call session;  
4 receive an image comprising at least a portion of a face of the participant;  
5 and  
6 modify a portion of the image so that the lips of the face are substantially  
7 synchronized with the voice signal.

1 19. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2 processor to receive the image over the call session.

1 20. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2 processor to receive the image from a storage device.

1 21. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2 processor to receive the image based on at least one of a phone number and name of the  
3 participant.

1 22. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions when executed cause the  
2 processor to receive mapping information over the call session.

23. The article of claim 22, wherein the instructions when executed cause the processor to modify the portion of the image based on the mapping information.

24. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions when executed cause the processor to display the portion of the image.

25. A data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising instructions that when executed cause a processor to:

receive calling party information associated with an incoming call;  
receive voice information and mapping information from the incoming  
call;

receive at least a facial image associated with the calling party information; and

animate the facial image based on the mapping information and voice information.

26. The data signal of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the processor to receive one of a phone number and a caller name associated with the incoming call.

27. The data signal of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the processor to animate the lips of the facial image so that the lips are substantially synchronized with the voice signal.

28. The data signal of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the processor to receive the image from a storage device.

29. The data signal of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the processor to receive the incoming call over a wireless link.

1 ~~30.~~ A communications system, comprising:  
 2 a first telecommunications device adapted to:  
 3 track at least one physical attribute of a participant;  
 4 associate the physical attribute to a selected value; and  
 5 transmit the selected value; and  
 6 a second telecommunications device capable of receiving the selected  
 7 value, the second telecommunications device adapted to:  
 8 reconstruct the physical attribute of the participant based on an  
 9 image and the selected value; and  
 10 display the reconstructed image.

1 31. The communications system of claim 30, wherein the selected value  
 2 represents one of a plurality of facial expressions of the participant.

1 32. The communications system of claim 31, wherein the first  
 2 telecommunications device is adapted to transmit a voice signal.

1 33. The communications system of claim 32, wherein the reconstructed image  
 2 comprises an animated image of the lips of the participant substantially synchronized  
 3 with the voice signal.

1 34. The communications system of claim 30, wherein the first  
 2 telecommunications device and second telecommunications device are one of selected  
 3 from a group of a cellular telephone, conventional telephone, and Internet telephone.

1 ~~35.~~ An apparatus, comprising:  
 2 a video camera adapted to track at least one physical attribute of user; and  
 3 a controller adapted to:  
 4 determine animation information based on the at least one physical  
 5 attribute of the user; and

6 transmit the animation information to a remote  
7 telecommunications device.

1 36. The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the at least one physical attribute  
2 comprises facial expressions of the user.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein each facial expression of the user is  
2 assigned a selected value, where the selected value represents one of a plurality of facial  
3 expressions.

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1 38. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the at least one physical attribute  
2 comprises a pair of lips of the user.

1 39. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the controller is further adapted to  
2 receive voice signals and wherein the animation information represents the pair of lips  
3 being substantially synchronized with the voice signals.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the remote telecommunications device  
2 is a cellular phone.

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